



City of Gaithersburg Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Spring Loose Leaf Collection Runs March 22 – April 9

Gaithersburg, MD (March 15, 2021) Loose leaf collection for single family and townhouse owners in the City of Gaithersburg begins Monday, March 22, and will continue through Friday, April 9, 2021, weather permitting. Collection is made weekly, however there may be a one to two-day delay during busy periods. Place leaves at the street curb by 7 a.m. on your regular recycling day. Note that leaves placed in alleys or mews will not be collected. After the collection period ends, leaves can be placed in biodegradable brown paper bags and left curbside with yard waste on your weekly recycling collection day.

Please remove limbs, rocks or other heavy objects from leaf piles. Never drive across or park over a leaf pile, and do not allow children to play in leaves along the street.

As a reminder, during periods of potential storm activity, please delay leaf raking until after the effects of the storm have passed. Also, do not rake leaves into gutters or streets. Rake them into grassy areas behind the curb line to allow water to flow into catch basins. This will help prevent the basins from clogging and will help prevent street flooding. Assistance moving leaves already in gutters to grassy areas would be greatly appreciated. Please note that the burning of leaves is not allowed in the City of Gaithersburg.

Before you begin cleaning up your yard, please consider leaving the leaves. Resist the urge to clean up your gardens until after temperatures are constantly above 50 degrees. Many butterflies, bees and other pollinators are currently overwintering in the dead leaves and hollowed out stems of last year's plants. If you clean your garden now, you will literally be throwing away this year's butterflies, bees and other beneficial pollinators. Learn more about the benefits of leaving the leaves [here](#).

To help residents reduce household waste and become better recyclers, the City encourages download of its free Recycle Coach app, an online tool designed to provide up-to-the-minute information and recycling tips. The app includes collection reminders and updates on service disruptions, a search tool to help residents figure out how to properly dispose of hundreds of items, and event calendars, including notifications of loose leaf collection. Learn more about Recycle Coach [here](#).

For more information, visit www.gaithersburgmd.gov or contact the City of Gaithersburg Department of Public Works at 301-258-6370.

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